

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings were received on 11/23/2009. These drawings are acceptable.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William Androlia on 12/16/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 11, "one selected from" has been deleted; and

line 12, "is connected" has been replaced with --are connected--.

The change has been made to remove the alternative phrase to place the application in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-19 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fail to teach or suggest, alone or in combination, the combination of the limitations: "discharge generating electrodes composed of two or more first electrodes and one or more second electrodes; and an alternating high voltage generating circuit to generate the alternating high voltage applied between the first and second electrodes of the discharge

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generating electrodes; wherein a capacitor and an inductor are connected in series between the first electrode and one output end of the alternating high voltage generating circuit.” as claimed in claims 1 and 4. It is for this reason in combination with all the other limitations in the independent claims 1 and 4, that claims 1-3 and 4-19 are allowable over prior art of record.

Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ephrem Alemu whose telephone number is (571) 272-1818. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Douglas W Owens can be reached on (571) 272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EA
12/17/09

/Douglas W Owens/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2821
December 19, 2009